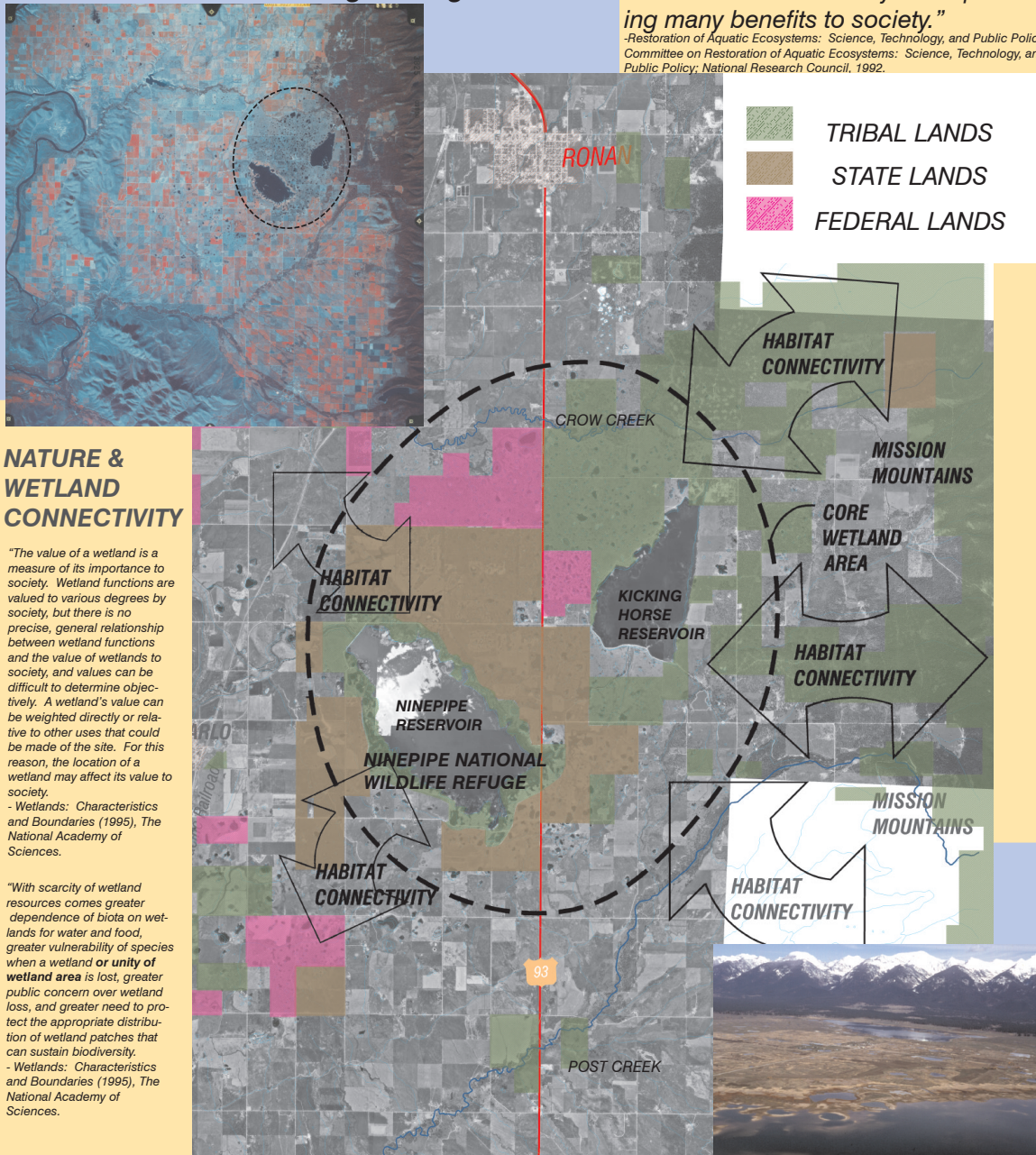


THE VALUE OF NINEPIPE

-As reflected by government land ownership and National Wildlife Refuge designation

"The public has begun to realize that wetlands are valuable systems providing many benefits to society."

-Restoration of Aquatic Ecosystems: Science, Technology, and Public Policy, Committee on Restoration of Aquatic Ecosystems: Science, Technology, and Public Policy; National Research Council, 1992.



NATURE & WETLAND CONNECTIVITY

"The value of a wetland is a measure of its importance to society. Wetland functions are valued to various degrees by society, but there is no precise, general relationship between wetland functions and the value of wetlands to society, and values can be difficult to determine objectively. A wetland's value can be weighted directly or relative to other uses that could be made of the site. For this reason, the location of a wetland may affect its value to society."

- Wetlands: Characteristics and Boundaries (1995), The National Academy of Sciences.

"With scarcity of wetland resources comes greater dependence of biota on wetlands for water and food, greater vulnerability of species when a wetland or unity of wetland area is lost, greater public concern over wetland loss, and greater need to protect the appropriate distribution of wetland patches that can sustain biodiversity."

- Wetlands: Characteristics and Boundaries (1995), The National Academy of Sciences.

US 93 DESIGN DISCUSSIONS

Project Committee:

Montana Department of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration

The Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation

Prime Consultant: Skillings-Connolly, Inc. - Consulting Engineers

Evans to Poison, Montana

December 20, 2000



Architects & Landscape Architects

The Ninepipe area is significant from both a cultural and ecological standpoint. The satellite image on this sheet shows that the Ninepipe wetland complex is at the central core of an area that includes thousands of potholes and is an incredibly rich and diverse wildlife habitat area. This graphic shows the lands in the Ninepipe area that are managed by federal, state, and Tribal agencies specifically for wildlife habitat.